

TERRORISM AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

TERRORISM AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (EADP 4980.001)

Professor: David A. McEntire
Semester: Summer I 2001
Course Schedule: MTWR 10:00–11:50
Course Location: WH 116

Office Location: Wooten Hall 362
Office Hours: M & W 12:00–1:30
Office phone: (940) 565-2996
E-mail: Dmcentir@scs.cmm.unt.edu

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to view terrorism in the context of emergency management. To achieve this goal, the seminar will define what terrorism is and will discuss why politically motivated acts of violence occur. The course will explore the ideological forces behind terrorism, and will provide an overview of terrorists groups and their tactics of intimidation and fear. The class will also highlight the effects of terrorism (examining weapons of mass destruction) and will explore what can be done to prevent terrorist attacks or respond more effectively. Attention will focus on the history of counter-terrorism legislation, and the course will provide practical lessons (based on actual terrorist attacks) for emergency managers and other related actors. The course will help students develop critical thinking and planning skills as they relate to the management of terrorist events.

Required Readings

- ❑ Combs, Cindy C. 2000. *Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century*. Prentice Hall: New Jersey.
- ❑ Other readings will be distributed in class.

Students are also advised to stay on top of current terrorist events and issues by reading a local or national newspaper, or the electronic editions of The New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com>), or The Washington Post (<http://www.washingtonpost.com>). Other useful terrorist/emergency management/news sources include *fbi.gov.*, *fema.gov.*, *disasterrelief.org*, *reliefweb.org.*, *cnn.com*.

Course Policies

Attendance is strongly recommended.
Arriving late is discouraged.
Participation is encouraged.
Reading weekly assignments is required.
Showing respect to others is expected.
Makes ups will be limited to special circumstances (and with prior notification only).
Incompletes will be given according to department policy.
Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will automatically result in a failing grade.

Note: see the end of this syllabus for the university policy on Americans with disabilities, and the department policy on cheating and plagiarism.

Grading

Students will earn points from attendance and participation, a thought paper, the midterm, a group presentation, a term paper and a final exam. Please note the following breakdown:

Attendance	20
Participation	20
Thought paper	40
Group presentation	60
Midterm	80
Term paper	80
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>100</u>
TOTAL POINTS	400

A standard scale will be used for grading (e.g. 90-100% = A; 80%-89% = B; 70%-79% = C; 60%-69% = D; 59% and below = F).

Attendance

Roll will be taken at least once each class session and attendance will amount to approximately 5% of the student's grade. While attendance directly affects only a small portion of the grade, the student should be aware that a significant number of absences will make it difficult to do well in the course. This is because tests will cover information from the lectures (in addition to the readings).

Participation

Asking questions and making comments about relevant course material is conducive for learning. Therefore, listening and participation will amount to 5% of your grade. If the class is actively involved in the discussion, each student should receive the full allotment of points in this area. If the class appears to be uninterested in the subject matter at hand, points will be awarded to those who make comments. Students who miss class will lose points for that day as they are not present to participate in the discussion. Unscheduled quizzes may also be administered by the Instructor and will be given inversely to class participation.

Thought Paper

10% of the student's grade will be based on a short thought paper to be turned in on June 11. Each student will be given a selection of quotes reflecting ideological preferences about values and the proper role of government. The student will then answer the following questions: 1). What is good government?, 2). Is there agreement about what constitutes good government?, 3). Is it possible to have consensus on values?, and 4). Why or why not? The student should incorporate readings into the paper as well as his or her own opinions on the matter, The paper should be 3 pages in length.

Group Presentations

Students will be divided into groups and will participate in a presentation about specific terrorists/terrorist organizations/terrorist states, covering their history, ideology, and tactics. Examples of individuals/organizations/states include: Timothy McVeigh, Osama Bin Laden, Aryan Nation, Shinning Path, Aum Shinrikyo, ETA, IRA, PLO, Libya, Syria, etc. It is also

strongly recommended that the presentation discuss an actual terrorist attack. Presentations should be 15 minutes in length. The group presentation will amount to 15% of the student's grade. Grades for the group presentation will be based on preparation, information provided, clarity of argument, visual aids, etc.

Term Paper

20% of the grade will be determined by a term paper. Students will write a 4 page paper about one of the following topics: a) terrorism and crisis management (law enforcement), b) terrorism and emergency (consequence) management, or c) coordination of law enforcement and emergency agencies. The paper should introduce the issue to be addressed, illustrate its importance, specify the problems evident in the issue, discuss its prospective solutions, and mention the role of the emergency manager (or related professionals) in overcoming or resolving those particular obstacles. The paper should conclude with practical or research implications. Papers will be graded on: the depth in which the issue was covered; the degree to which assigned and other readings, lectures and personal opinions were incorporated into the assignment; and overall presentation (e.g. level of reflection, clarity, detail, grammar, spelling, etc.). Papers should provide material beyond class notes, and are to be typed, double spaced and should conform to the citation style in one of the following journals: Disasters, Disaster Prevention and Management, Australian Journal of Emergency Management, International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters, Natural Hazards Review, or Public Administration Review. Papers turned in after the due date will automatically lose 10 points

Midterm/Final Exam

45% of the student's grade will be determined by the midterm and final exam. These will consist of true/false, matching, and multiple choice questions. The professor will advise the student of the structure of the tests in advance. Students who miss the exams without giving prior notification will be given different questions or will have 10% deducted from their final score. Should unannounced quizzes be administered, the total number of points will be adjusted. No make-ups will be given to those students who are absent when unscheduled quizzes are given. Makes ups for the midterm and final exam will be limited to very special circumstances and with prior instructor approval only.

Dates to Remember

Thought Paper	June 11
Group Presentations	June 20-21
Midterm	June 25
Term Paper due	July 2
Independence Day (No class)	July 4
Final Exam	July 6

Session 1: June 4

Introductions, course overview and expectations

Reading: Chapter 1 "An Idea Whose Time Has Come?"

Session 2: June 5

Terrorism and the nature of politically-motivated violence
Reading: Chapter 2 “Not a Modern Phenomena”

Session 3: June 6

Ideas, ideology and political systems
Reading: Chapter 3 “Ideology and Terrorism: Rights from Wrongs?”
Video: Timothy McVeigh and the Oklahoma City Bombing

Session 4: June 7

What constitutes good government?
Reading: Hand out “Early Theorists and Systems; The Search for Good Government”

Session 5: June 11

Ideologies I: Liberalism, capitalism, nationalism and conservatism
Reading: Hand out “The Wealth of Nations and the Rights of Man”
Thought paper due: “What constitutes good government?”

Session 6: June 12

Ideologies II: Marxism, Leninism, communism and the third world
Reading: Hand out “The Communist Manifesto”

Session 7: June 13

Ideologies III: Fascism, nazism, anarchism, neo-liberalism and democratic socialism
Reading: Hand out “Mein Kampf”

Session 8: June 14

Ideologies IV: Feminism, contemporary conservatism, fundamentalism, environmentalism, modern nationalism, postmodernism, democracy and the end of ideology?
Reading: Hand out “The End of History?”

Session 9: June 15

Terrorist actors
Reading: Chapter 4 “Criminals or Crusaders?”

Session 10: June 19

The history of terrorism
Reading: Chapter 5 “*Terrorism by the State*”

Session 11: June 20

The tactics of terrorists I
Reading: Chapter 6 “Terrorism, Inc.”
Student presentations

Session 12: June 21

The tactics of terrorists II

Reading: Chapter 7 “How Do They Operate?”

Student presentations

Session 13: June 25

Midterm Exam

Session 14: June 26

The role of information

Reading: Chapter 8 “The Media: A Weapon for Both Sides?”

Session 15: June 27

The history of terrorist legislation

Reading: Chapter 9 “Legal Perspectives on Terrorism”

Session 16: June 28

Current counter terrorist organizations and activities

Reading: Chapter 11 “Terrorism, Intelligence and the Law”

Session 17: July 2

Preventing terrorism through mitigation and other measures

Reading: Chapter 12 “Security Measures: A Frail Defense”

Term Papers due

Session 18: July 3

Preparing for, responding to and recovering from a terrorist attack

Reading: Chapter 10 “Counter terrorism: The Use of Special Forces”

Session 19: July 4

Independence Day—no class

Session 20: July 5

The future of terrorism and emergency management

Reading: Chapter 13 “Future Trends”

Session 21: July 6

Final Exam

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT POLICIES

Disability Accommodation

The Emergency Administration and Planning Program, in cooperation with the Office of Disability Accommodations (ODA), complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request to the instructor within the first two weeks of the semester. Students registered with the ODA may present the Special Accommodation Request from that office in lieu of a written statement.

Cheating and Plagiarism

Definitions

The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline defines cheating and plagiarism “as the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test; copying others’ tests, assignments, reports, or term papers; representing the work of another as one’s own; collaborating without authority with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; or otherwise practicing scholastic dishonesty.”

Penalties

Normally, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a grade of “F” in the course. In the case of graduate department exams, the minimum penalty shall be failure of all fields of the exam. Determination of cheating and plagiarism shall be made by the instructor in the course, or by the department faculty in the case of departmental exams.

Cases of cheating or plagiarism on graduate departmental exams, problem papers, theses, or dissertations shall automatically be referred to the departmental Curriculum and Degree Program(s) Committee. Cases of cheating or plagiarism in ordinary course work may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Curriculum and Degree Program(s) Committee in the case of either graduate or undergraduate students. This committee, acting as an agent of the Department, shall impose further penalties, or recommend further penalties to the Dean of Students, if they determine that the case warrants it. In all cases, the Dean of Students shall be informed in writing of the case.

Appeals

Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.